

WEB-BASED IMAGING SERVICE THAT PROVIDES OR USES COLLATED  
PRINTING CAPABILITIES DEPENDING ON DEVICE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a web based imaging environment, a user browses to web-based destination service  
5 representing a printing device, chooses print options including printing more than one copy,  
and selects print. If the printing device internally supports collated printing, the destination  
service uses the internal collated printing capability conventionally to print multiple collated  
copies. If not, the service then provides externally assisted collated printing by sending the  
user's image data to the printer once for each copy requested. In a variation, the destination  
10 service updates the front panel of the printing device to indicate which collated copy is being  
printed. In a further variation, the updated front panel status information is displayed  
dynamically at the user's browser. In another variation, the destination service accesses the  
user's identity on a demand basis multiple times to retrieve copies of the user's imaging  
information for collated printing.